Vulgar Programmes on Doordarshan

†1914. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that superstitious, violent and vulgar love scenes are being telecast for various reasons by the electronic media in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these telecasts are making impact on innocent children and immature adults;

(c) if so, Government's reaction in this regard; and

(d) the action being taken by Government to ban such telecasts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (d) Doordarshan and AIR's programmes are previewed before telecast/broadcast to ensure their complaince with the Programme Code, which, inter-alia, lays down that any excessive violence or vulgarity and superstitions, which may have adverse effect on the viewers should not be telecastedbroadcasted. Action on complaints about content of private channels, being retransmitted through cable networks, can be taken by authorised /specified officers notified by State Government/UTs under. the Cable Television Network (Regulation) Act, 1995.

In exceptional cases, Government of India also takes action as has been done in the case of Channel TB-6 whereby its transmission has been prohibited through cable networks as its programmes contain obscene matters affecting public morality.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.